

EXHIBIT D

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PHILADELPHIA COUNTY
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
CIVIL TRIAL DIVISION

IN RE: PELVIC MESH LITIGATION

PATRICIA HAMMONS, : MAY TERM, 2013
Plaintiff :

v. :

ETHICON, INC., et al., :
Defendants : NO. 3913

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015

COURTROOM 246
CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

B E F O R E: THE HONORABLE MARK I. BERNSTEIN, J.,
and a Jury

JURY TRIAL - VOLUME VII

MORNING SESSION

REPORTED BY:
JOHN J. KURZ, RMR, CRR
REGISTERED MERIT REPORTER
CERTIFIED REALTIME REPORTER
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

- RALPH ZIPPER, M.D. - VOIR DIRE -

1 A. I think this is going to be 20 years.

2 Q. And are you board certified, sir?

3 A. Yes, I am.

4 Q. And in what are you board certified?

5 A. I am board certified in obstetrics and
6 gynecology and I am board certified in
7 urogynecology. The board is called Female Pelvic
8 Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery.

9 Q. Dr. Zipper, are you one of these doctors who
10 does a lot of research and writes hundreds of papers
11 or are you one of these doctors who's in the
12 operating room and with patients?

13 A. I'm the guy in the trenches with the sleeves
14 rolled up. I treat a lot of patients. I read a lot
15 of papers.

16 Q. But have you, in fact, published in the medical
17 literature; at least a little bit?

18 A. A tiny bit, yes. I'm not a big publisher.
19 I've taken care of patients. I do a lot of
20 teaching. I've trained a great number of surgeons
21 and fellows, but, no, I'm down seeing patients and
22 doing surgery.

23 Q. Okay. Tell us about how many pelvic
24 reconstructive surgeries you've done in the last 20
25 years.

- RALPH ZIPPER, M.D. - VOIR DIRE -

1 A. Thousands.

2 Q. And how many of those have been for pelvic
3 organ prolapse, which is the condition we're talking
4 about in this case?

5 A. The majority. This is what I do for a living.
6 I treat women with pelvic organ prolapse and bladder
7 problems. So if I'm in the operating room, I'm
8 either doing a surgery for pelvic organ prolapse, a
9 surgery for urinary incontinence, or I'm dealing
10 with the complications of those surgeries.

11 Q. There has been some discussion about various
12 surgical modalities for the treatment of pelvic
13 organ prolapse. I think there's been discussion
14 about the procedure where you just use stitches; is
15 that correct?

16 A. Yes. You may hear me today call that native
17 tissue surgery or suture surgery; but, yes, I do
18 that.

19 Q. Is that also called colporrhaphy?

20 A. Yes; anterior colporrhaphy. Colporrhaphy, yes.

21 MR. SPECTER: And if I may ask you to
22 hand this up to the witness, please.

23 BY MR. SPECTER:

24 Q. Could you identify that object, sir?

25 A. This is a Prolene suture with a needle.

- RALPH ZIPPER, M.D. - DIRECT -

1 about biomaterials and mesh degradation, we'd
2 object on qualifications.

3 THE COURT: Any further questions?

4 MR. ISMAIL: No, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Any further questions?

6 MR. SPECTER: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: The witness is qualified
8 to provide expert opinion testimony in his
9 fields of expertise. Your objection at this
10 time is overruled.

11 In the event that there is testimony
12 presented that you think is outside of the
13 qualifications, you should object at that time.

14 MR. ISMAIL: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Proceed.

16 MR. SPECTER: Thank you.

17 - - -

18 DIRECT EXAMINATION

19 - - -

20 BY MR. SPECTER:

21 Q. Dr. Zipper, at our request, did you review an
22 enormous mass of materials relating to Patricia
23 Hammons and the Prolift and vaginal mesh in general?

24 A. Can you restate that question, Mr. Specter?

25 Q. At the request of our office, did you review an